THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) The number of approvals granted for projects with 100% foreign holding and involving an investment of over about Rs. 1 crore in the various Export Processing Zones is 6. The technology status of a project is a relative consideration that may depend on aspects such as the technology of manufacture, product specifications, rating and demand in the international market, research and development inputs, product end use and priority, etc. As on 1st July, 1989 one application from a 100% foreign owned company involving an investment of over Rs. 1 crore and relating to the setting up of a project for the production of proprietory compounds, preparations and extracts for use in the manufacture of concentrate for non-alcoholic beverages by M/s. Coca Cola South Asia Holdings Inc. in the Noida Export Processing Zone was pending.

Coca Cola proposal

360. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the proposal for setting up the Coca Cola project unit at the NOIDA Export Processing Zone and state:

(a) whether the raw materials proposed to be imported are those which are not available in India; and

(b) whether Government propose to allow import of proprietary ingredients to a unit in the Export Processing Zone and also make it available to the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI) : (a) and (b) The Company has indicated in its application that 51% of the raw material by value will be obtained indigenously. It is understood that some essential oils which are not available indigenously may be imported. Units in the Export Processing Zones are permitted to import their production inputs. The facility of domestic sale upto 25% accorded on a case by case basis is subject to the payment of applicable customs duties.

Coca Cola offers to set up exports

361. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the report published in the Business Standard of 27th June, 1989 captioned "Coca Cola offers to step up exports" and state :

(a) whether Government had asked the Coca Cola Company to resubmit the proposal with fresh commitments;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are satisfied with the new proposal of Coca Cola Company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI) : (a) to (c) M/s. Coca Cola South Asia Holdings Inc. had indicated that they would be submitting some additional proposals involving increased exports. The company has since indicated that it would make further commitments for additional exports from India and investments in the Food Processing Industry subject to its application for the project in the Noida Export Processing Zone being approved as sought for. These proposals are under examination.